



Capitalization . . .

678.1

School Subjects

Capitalize the name of a specific educational course, but not the name of a general subject. (Exception—the names of all languages are proper nouns and are always capitalized: *French, English, Hindi, German, Latin.*)

Roberto is studying accounting at the technical college.

(Because *accounting* is a general subject, it is not capitalized.)

He likes the professor who teaches Accounting Principles.

(The specific course name is capitalized.)

678.2

Official Names

Capitalize the names of businesses and the official names of their products. (These are called trade names.) Do not, however, capitalize a general word like “toothpaste” when it follows the trade name.

Old Navy

Best Buy

Microsoft

Kodak

Sony Playstation

Tombstone pizza

Mudd jeans

678.3

Races, Languages, Nationalities, Religions

Capitalize the names of languages, races, nationalities, and religions, as well as the proper adjectives formed from them.

Arab

Spanish

Judaism

Catholicism

African art

Irish linen

Swedish meatballs

678.4

Days, Months, Holidays

Capitalize the names of days of the week, months of the year, and special holidays.

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

July

August

September

Arbor Day

Independence Day

Do not capitalize the names of seasons.

winter, spring, summer, fall (autumn)

678.5

Historical Events

Capitalize the names of historical events, documents, and periods of time.

World War II

the Bill of Rights

the Magna Carta

the Middle Ages

the Paleozoic Era



Practice

Capitalization 2

- School Subjects
- Official Names
- Races, Languages, Nationalities, Religions
- Days, Months, Holidays
- Historical Events



For each of the following sentences, correctly write any word that is incorrectly capitalized.

Example: Sue had lunch at Burger king last thursday.

King, Thursday

1. At the catholic church that Ramón's family attends, the priests speak spanish.
2. More than a million soldiers fought the battle of the bulge in Europe during World war II.
3. Cassandra's first class of the day is fundamentals of music.
4. After that, she has Science, math, gym, and english.
5. The handlin Museum has a new exhibit of african art.
6. Independence day falls on the first sunday of july this year.
7. My favorite sandwich is made with Skippy Peanut Butter.
8. During the period of time called the renaissance, people made many advances in Art, Literature, and Science.
9. Shabbat, a day of rest and prayer in the jewish religion, begins on friday evening and ends saturday evening.

Next Step: Write a sentence that tells your favorite brand of soda.
Write another sentence about a holiday you enjoy.
Capitalize words correctly.